

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring World War II Veteran
James Lee Hutchinson of Bedford, Indiana.

STEELE

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring World War II Veteran James Lee Hutchinson of Bedford, Indiana.

Whereas, between 1944 and 1945, James Lee Hutchinson served with the "Mighty Eighth" Air Force - the most decorated U.S. Army Air Corps Unit during WWII;

Whereas, James served as a radio operator and gunner on a lead crew of the B-17 Flying Fortress during eighteen combat missions with the 490th Bomb Group of the 8th Air Force in England;

Whereas, James and his nine fellow crew members joined hundreds of other bombers as they went on numerous missions into the heart of Hitler's Germany. They flew at 25,000 feet, on oxygen, in sub-zero temperatures for hours at a time facing anti-aircraft flak and attacks by Luftwaffe fighters;

Whereas, upon returning from the war at age 20, James attended Indiana University where he majored in history and journalism. He earned a BS in Education in 1949 and then a Masters in Education in 1952. He later returned to school, receiving his Ed.S. in School Administration in 1967;

Whereas, James enjoyed a 37 year career in education, where he served as an elementary teacher, principal, and a



Special Projects Assistant to the Superintendent of Bedford-North Lawrence Schools;

Whereas, James has recounted his WWII experiences in his book "Through These Eyes", which is based on notes from his combat diary and memories of his boyhood in the depression years. The book covers topics ranging from basic training to the Holocaust and the terrible costs of the war;

Whereas, a copy of this book has been placed in the Library of Congress as part of Senator Richard Lugar's World War II Veterans' History Project;

Whereas, James has been an active member in the Bedford community serving as an ordained elder in the Presbyterian Church, President of the Rotary Club, and a member of the Masonic Lodge for 46 years; and

Whereas, James is presently preparing a second book, "WWII Legacies of Freedom" which will include more boyhood experiences and the stories of other Indiana Air Force veterans. In addition, he is working with the Radio Television class at BNL High School to interview WWII veterans so that their stories can be recorded and made available to schools and public libraries for future generations: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly honors James
- 2 Lee Hutchinson for his service to protect our country in World War II.
- 3 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
- 4 transmit a copy of this Resolution to Mr. James Hutchinson.

